

Penny is the proud mother of two sons, Chinyelu and Cory, but God has given her as He did Abraham and Sarah, innumerable sons and daughters that are spread throughout the world. You will never hear Penny say she did anything special or take credit for the overwhelming successful outcomes of her students' achievements whom she affectionately refers to as her "Power Angels". But, you will hear Penny say, "To God Be the Glory!!!"

Mr. Speaker, Penny Lyndella Willoughby-Parker's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes her worthy of our recognition today.

PATIENT ASSISTANCE DAY: HELPING LOW INCOME AMERICANS GET THE HEALTH CARE THEY NEED

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Patient Assistance Day. Today, millions of Americans lack health insurance and cannot access medicines that they need to treat their illnesses. While the government looks for practical ways to help the 45 million uninsured citizens, there are private-sector programs in place that are helping millions of Americans.

One such program is the Partnership for Prescription Assistance (PPA), a national clearinghouse that links uninsured and underinsured people to patient assistance programs that offer drugs for free or nearly free. America's pharmaceutical research companies, along with 1,300 community and patient organizations, launched the PPA in April 2005. Since then, the PPA has helped more than 1.8 million patients, but millions more stand to benefit.

As the PPA commemorates its 1-year anniversary on April 5, 2006, it will celebrate the first annual Patient Assistance Day, which will include educational activities throughout the country designed to raise awareness of and help educate the public about patient assistance programs.

This private-sector program has been successful in helping uninsured Americans get the medicines they need. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the work of the Partnership for Prescription Assistance and observing April 5th as Patient Assistance Day.

**PROCLAIMING APRIL 5, 2006
PATIENT ASSISTANCE DAY**

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2006

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about a program that I have brought to my district many of times to help my constituents access affordable drugs.

The Partnership for Prescription Assistance (PPA) is a national clearinghouse that links uninsured and underinsured people to patient

assistant programs that offer drugs for free or nearly free. America's pharmaceutical research companies, along with 1,300 community and patient organizations launched the PPA in April 2005 and have since helped almost 2 million patients, including over 48,000 in my home state of Louisiana.

Today, the PPA commemorates its 1-year anniversary (April 5, 2006), and with that celebration, the first annual Patient Assistance Day.

Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize this significant achievement of the PPA in addressing the uninsured issue by meeting a real need of patients everywhere. I applaud the efforts of biopharmaceutical research companies, health care providers, patient advocacy organizations, and community groups all across the United States. The PPA has visited the 7th Congressional District to provide information at many of my town hall meetings, as well as other health events. The response to their presence has been overwhelming. I am committed to helping my constituents and all Americans in need access life-saving medicines. In that spirit, I ask my colleagues to join me today in proclaiming "April 5, Patient Assistance Day. Surely, millions more stand to benefit from this program and we should do our part in helping to connect patients in need.

I also submit for the RECORD a success story about the PPA's effort in Southwest Louisiana.

[From the Southwest Daily News, Feb. 15, 2006]

(By Mary Ann Dutton)

Help is Here Express is a traveling education center sponsored by America's Pharmaceutical Research Companies, in partnership with the Calcasieu Community Clinic and the Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families. The bright orange bus rolled into Sulphur on Tuesday to educate uninsured and underinsured patients about prescription assistance. Originally scheduled to be at Sulphur City Hall from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., the staff said they would stay until everyone was helped.

Help is Here Express is part of the Partnership for Prescription Assistance, a growing national program that brings prescription assistance to the uninsured and underinsured. According to Partners for Prescription Assistance (PPA) Consultant Cheron Brylski, the PPA was birthed by former Louisiana Congressman Billy Tauzin. While battling cancer, Tauzin realized that he would not have survived without the drugs used in his treatment. Understanding that many cancer patients are unable to afford the drugs that could help them, Tauzin made it a personal goal to get an assistance program started.

"The Partnership for Prescription Assistance is changing thousands of lives everyday," said PhRMA President and CEO Tauzin. "No one is helped by a medicine that sits on the shelf and is out of reach financially. The Partnership for Prescription Assistance is matching the people of Louisiana who are uninsured or underinsured to patient assistance programs that may help them get the medicines they need for free or nearly free. We will keep coming back to Louisiana as long as there are people who need our help."

The Help is Here Express was developed as a way to take the Partnership for Prescription Assistance program on the road, bringing help directly to the people who need it most. In Louisiana alone there have been 26,218 searches and 16,842 matches through the use of the computer terminals and mobile telephones on the bus.

Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America spokesman Jeff Trehwitt said the Help is Here Express offers help to anyone who is having trouble affording their prescription medicine. Since its launch last April in Baton Rouge, the program has matched more than 1.3 million patients nationally, and more than 44,000 right here in Louisiana.

"There are millions of patients who qualify for assistance and don't know about the program," said Trehwitt. "There are 475 patient assistance plans so we are bringing our education program to reach and inform the masses."

If you were unable to visit the Help is Here Express yesterday, the same services are available by telephone or on the internet. "Many prefer the privacy of their own home," said Trehwitt. "This is possible by calling 1-888-4PPA-NOW (1-888-477-2669) or the user-friendly website www.pparxla.org." Trehwitt suggested that applicants have the names of current medicines available when calling.

An interesting tidbit shared by Trehwitt is that the Help is Here Express bus used to be the touring bus of country singers Brooks and Dunn.

The Help is Here Express is scheduled to be in Lafayette at the Acadiana Outreach Center, 2125 S. Buchanan Street on Feb. 16th at 9:30 a.m.

**IN HONOR OF CALEB FOOTE LAW
PROFESSOR AND PACIFIST ORGANIZER**

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2006

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor one of America's great teachers and scholars of law and an inspirational figure for everyone who believes in the creative spirit of non-violence, Mr. Caleb Foote, who passed away on March 4, 2006.

Caleb Foote began his life journey in Massachusetts. He was born in Cambridge in 1917, graduated from Harvard in 1939, and earned his master's degree in 1941. He was raised on Quaker beliefs and held deep principles that rejected the use of violence. During the period of World War II he was sent to prison for those beliefs when he refused to serve in the military or to perform alternative service in support of war. After completing his prison sentence, he spoke out against the internment of Japanese-Americans, working with photographer Dorothy Lange to produce a pamphlet on the subject in 1943. He was forced to serve a second term in prison for continuing to refuse the draft, but he was pardoned by no one less than President Harry S. Truman.

In the 1950s, Mr. Foote went back to college and earned his law degree. For the remainder of his career, he taught law and became a leading champion for the rights of the poor, the young, minorities, and the disenfranchised within the criminal justice system. Even after he retired, he continued his research and exposed the failures of the juvenile justice system in California.

America has lost a champion of justice and a man of principle. I extend my condolences to all the members of Caleb Foote's family and his community of friends, who knew him not as a symbol, but as a husband, a father, a grandfather, a friend, and a colleague.